IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 3, 4, 6-8 and 10, and add new claims 11-18, as shown below in the detailed listing of all claims which are, or were in this application:

1. (Currently amended) Process for the surface treatment of an article containing crosslinked silicone, ~~preferably~~ selected from polyorganosiloxanes (POS) crosslinked by the polyaddition of ≡Si-H units onto ≡Si-alkenyl ~~(preferably ≡Si vinyl)~~ units, ~~in~~ obtained from a silicone preparation comprising:

- at least one polyorganosiloxane (POS) A with ≡Si-alkenyl ~~(preferably ≡Si vinyl)~~ units,
- at least one polyorganosiloxane (POS) B with ≡Si-H units,
- at least one metal catalyst C, ~~preferably based on platinum,~~
- optionally at least one POS resin D carrying ≡Si-alkenyl ~~(preferably ≡Si vinyl)~~ units,
- optionally at least one crosslinking inhibitor E,
- optionally at least one adhesion promoter F,
- optionally at least one mineral filler G,

- optionally at least one functional additive H for imparting specific properties,

wherein:

  - said process comprises spraying at least one plasma jet onto at least part of the silicone surface of said article,
  - the plasma used is a homogeneous atmospheric plasma,
  - and it is ~~produced~~ carried out continuously by means of a plasma spraying apparatus comprising a rotating head having one or more plasma nozzles that are offset relative to the axis of rotation, each one being capable of generating a plasma jet whose axis is parallel to said axis of rotation.

2. (Previously presented) Process for the production of a crosslinked silicone article which has been treated by the process according to claim 1, comprising:

- (I) forming a silicone element with a liquid silicone preparation as defined in claim 1;

- (II) crosslinking this liquid silicone preparation formed in step (I);
- (III) treating at least part of the crosslinked silicone surface with a plasma;
- (IV) repeating steps (I) and (II).

3. (Currently amended) Process according to claim 1, wherein the quantity of plasma received by the silicone surface is such that the energy of said surface is greater than 30 mN/m ~~and preferably between 30 and more than 70 mN/m~~.

4. (Currently amended) Process according to claim 1, wherein the article containing silicone includes a ~~preferably flexible~~ substrate and one or more crosslinked silicone elements forming a monolayer or multilayer coating adhering to the substrate.

5. (Previously presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the article containing silicone is a silicone mold or molded object.

6. (Currently amended) Process for the assembly of articles containing crosslinked silicone ~~preferably~~ selected from polyorganosiloxanes (POS) crosslinked by the polyaddition of ≡Si-H units onto ≡Si-alkenyl ~~(preferably ≡Si vinyl)~~ units, wherein at least one of the articles to be assembled is derived from the process according to claim 1, and wherein said articles are assembled using liquid adhesive which is applied to at least part of the treated silicone surfaces.

7. (Currently amended) Process according to claim 1, wherein the chosen POS A have siloxy units of the formula:

$$W_aZ_bSiO_{(4-(a+b))/2} \qquad (1)$$

in which:

- the symbols W, which are identical or different, are each an alkenyl group ~~and preferably a C_2-C_6 alkenyl~~;
- the symbols Z, which are identical or different, are each a non-hydrolyzable monovalent hydrocarbon group that is devoid of an unfavorable action on the activity of the catalyst, and is optionally halogenated ~~and is preferably selected from alkyl groups having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms inclusive, and from aryl groups~~;

- a is 1 or 2, b is 0, 1 or 2 and a + b is between 1 and 3;
- optionally at least some of the other units are units of the empirical formula

$$Z_cSiO_{(4-c)/2} \qquad (2)$$

in which Z is as defined above and c has a value of between 0 and 3.

8. (Currently amended) Process according to claim 1, wherein the chosen POS B has siloxy units of the formula:

$$H_dL_eSiO_{(4-(d+e))/2} \qquad (3)$$

in which:

- the symbols L, which are identical or different, are each a non-hydrolyzable monovalent hydrocarbon group that is devoid of an unfavorable action on the activity of the catalyst, and is optionally halogenated ~~and is preferably selected from alkyl groups having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms inclusive, and from aryl groups~~;
- d is 1 or 2, e is 0, 1 or 2 and d + e has a value of between 1 and 3;
- optionally at least some of the other units being units of the empirical formula

$$L_gSiO_{(4-g)/2} \qquad (4)$$

in which L is as defined above and g has a value of between 0 and 3.

9. (Previously presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the alkenyl groups W of the POS A and/or of the POS resins D are vinyl groups Vi carried by siloxy units D and optionally M and/or T.

10. (Currently amended) Crosslinked silicone elastomer coating obtainable by the process according to claim 1, wherein said coating has an adhesive strength, measured by a peel test T, greater than 2.7 N/cm~~, preferably greater than or equal to 2.8 N/cm and particularly preferably of between 3 and 10 N/cm~~.

11. (New) The process of claim 1, wherein said ≡Si-alkenyl units comprise ≡Si-vinyl units.

12. (New) The process of claim 3, wherein said energy is between 30 and 70 mN/m.

13. (New) The process of claim 4, wherein said substrate is flexible.

14. (New) The process of claim 7, wherein said alkenyl group comprises C_2-C_6 alkenyl.

15. (New) The process of claim 7, wherein said non-hydrolyzable monovalent hydrocarbon group is selected from alkyl groups having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms inclusive and from aryl groups.

16. (New) The process of claim 8, wherein said non-hydrolyzable monovalent hydrocarbon group is selected from alkyl groups having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms inclusive and from aryl groups.

17. (New) The process of claim 10, wherein said coating has an adhesive strength, measured by a peel test T, of between 3 and 10 N/cm.

18. (New) Method for improving the adhesive performance characteristics of crosslinked silicone surface selected from polyorganosiloxanes (POS) crosslinked by the polyaddition of ≡Si-H

units onto ≡Si-alkenyl units, obtained from a silicone preparation comprising:

- at least one polyorganosiloxane (POS) A with ≡Si-alkenyl units,
- at least one polyorganosiloxane (POS) B with ≡Si-H units,
- at least one metal catalyst C,
- optionally at least one POS resin D carrying ≡Si-alkenyl units,
- optionally at least one crosslinking inhibitor E,
- optionally at least one adhesion promoter F,
- optionally at least one mineral filler G,
- optionally at least one functional additive H for imparting specific properties,

wherein said method comprises spraying at least one plasma jet onto at least part of the silicone surface of said article,

wherein the plasma used is a homogeneous atmospheric plasma, and

wherein said method is carried out continuously by means of a plasma spraying apparatus comprising a rotating head having one or more plasma nozzles that are offset relative to the axis of

rotation, each one being capable of generating a plasma jet whose axis is parallel to said axis of rotation.